

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A flue connection system for an appliance, the flue connection system comprising:

a flue connection member including a plate portion having a top surface and a bottom surface and defining a first aperture, and including an extending member ~~configured to be coupled to a flue duct and~~ extending beyond the top and bottom surfaces of the plate member in alignment with the first aperture, the extending member being configured to be coupled to a flue duct; and

an appliance connection member, the appliance connection member defining a second aperture, and the appliance connection member being configured to be attached to the appliance[[,]];

wherein the flue connection member and the appliance connection member are configured to be coupled together with the first and second apertures aligned to provide fluid communication between the appliance and the flue duct.

2. (original) The flue connection system of claim 1, wherein the extending member defines the first aperture.

3. (canceled)

4. (original) The flue connection system of claim 1, wherein the appliance connection member has a plate portion.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The flue connection system of claim 1, the appliance connection member comprising a seating member that defines the second aperture, wherein the seating

member is positioned such that when the flue connection member is positioned on top of the appliance connection member, the portion of the extending member that extends beyond the bottom surface of the plate portion of the flue connection member extends into the seating member.

7. (previously presented) The flue connection system of claim 1, the plate portion of the flue connection member comprising an opening, the appliance connection member comprising a tab that extends beyond a top surface of a plate portion of the appliance connection member, wherein the opening and the tab are positioned so that when the flue connection member is positioned on top of the appliance connection member, the tab extends into the opening.

8. (previously presented) The flue connection system of claim 1, wherein the appliance connection member comprises at least one latching member that is movably mounted, wherein the latching member is positioned so that when the flue connection member is positioned on top of the appliance connection member, the latching member can be moved so that it extends over a top surface of the flue connection member to couple the flue connection member to the appliance connection member.

9. (original) The flue connection system of claim 1, wherein the appliance is a fireplace.

10. (original) The flue connection system of claim 9, wherein the fireplace is a slant back type fireplace insert.

11. (currently amended) An appliance, the appliance comprising:
a combustion chamber;
a combustible source that produces exhaust gases;
a vent system for venting exhaust gases from the combustion chamber to outside of the appliance, the vent system including a vent opening in the appliance; and
a flue connection member, the flue connection member including a plate portion having top and bottom surfaces and defining an aperture formed in the plate portion, and the flue

connection member including an a hollow cylindrical extending member in alignment with the aperture and configured to be coupled to a flue duct, the extending member having a circular cross-section and extending beyond the top and bottom surfaces of the plate member,

wherein the flue connection member is further configured to be coupled to the appliance to substantially align the aperture of the flue connection member with the vent opening of the vent system, wherein the plate portion of the flue connection member comprises a notch and the appliance comprises a tab that extends outward from the appliance, wherein the opening and the tab are positioned such that when the flue connection member is positioned in contact with the appliance the tab extends into the notch.

12. (original) The flue connection system of claim 11 wherein the extending member defines the aperture.

13-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The flue connection system of claim 11, the appliance comprising a seating member that defines the vent opening, wherein the seating member is positioned such that when the flue connection member is positioned in contact with the appliance, the portion of the extending member that extends beyond the bottom surface of the plate portion of the flue connection member extends into the seating member.

16. (canceled)

17. (previously presented) The flue connection system of claim 11, wherein the appliance comprises at least one latching member that is movably mounted to the appliance, wherein the latching member is positioned such that when the flue connection member is positioned on top of the appliance, the latching member can be moved so that it extends over a top surface of the flue connection member to couple the flue connection member to the appliance.

18. (original) The flue connection system of claim 11, wherein the appliance is a fireplace.

19. (original) The flue connection system of claim 18, wherein the fireplace is a slant back type fireplace insert.

20. (currently amended) A flue connection system for an appliance, the flue connection system comprising:

a flue connection member, the flue connection member defining an aperture and including an extending member aligned with the aperture, and the flue connection member being configured to be coupled to a flue duct,

wherein the flue connection member is further configured to be coupled to the appliance to substantially align the aperture of the flue connection member with a vent opening in the appliance, and the fireplace is a slant back type fireplace insert.

21. (original) The flue connection system of claim 20 wherein the extending member defines the aperture.

22. (original) The flue connection system of claim 20 wherein the flue connection member has a plate portion.

23. (original) The flue connection system of claim 22 wherein the plate portion of the flue connection member has a top surface and a bottom surface, and the extending member extends beyond the top surface and the bottom surface of the plate portion,

wherein the extending member that extends beyond the top surface is configured to be coupled to a flue duct and the extending member that extends beyond the bottom surface is configured to be coupled to an appliance.

24-25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A method of coupling a vent system flue duct to an appliance using a flue connection member, the appliance including a vent panel system having a primary surface and defining a vent aperture, and the flue connection member defining a first aperture and

including an extending member aligned with the first aperture, the method comprising the steps of:

coupling the ~~vent system~~ flue duct to the extending member;

moving the flue connection member in a direction non-parallel to the vent ~~panel system~~ primary surface to align the first aperture with the vent aperture; and

coupling the flue connection member to the appliance;

wherein the flue connection member includes a plate portion having top and bottom surfaces, and the extending member extends beyond the top and bottom surfaces of the plate member, and coupling the flue connection member to the appliance includes inserting a portion of the extending member into the vent aperture.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the appliance further includes an appliance connection member defining a second aperture, the method further comprising aligning the second aperture with the vent aperture and the first aperture, and coupling the appliance connection member between the appliance and the flue connection member.

28. (canceled)

29. (currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the vent ~~panel system~~ further defines ~~an~~ a first inlet aperture and the flue connection member further defines ~~a~~ the ~~second~~ third ~~inlet~~ aperture, and the moving step includes moving the flue connection member to align the ~~third~~ first ~~inlet~~ aperture with the second ~~inlet~~ aperture.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the vent ~~panel system~~ further defines ~~an~~ a first inlet aperture, the flue connection member further includes a ~~third~~ second ~~inlet~~ aperture, and the appliance connection member defining a ~~fourth~~ third ~~inlet~~ aperture, the moving step further including moving the flue connection member to align the ~~third~~ second ~~inlet~~ aperture with the first ~~inlet~~ aperture, and the aligning step further including aligning the ~~fourth~~ third ~~inlet~~ aperture with the first ~~inlet~~ aperture and the ~~third~~ second ~~inlet~~ aperture.

31. (new) A method of coupling a flue duct to an appliance using a flue connection member, the appliance including a vent system having a primary surface and defining a vent aperture, and the flue connection member defining a first aperture and including an extending member aligned with the first aperture, the method comprising the steps of:

coupling the flue duct to the extending member;

moving the flue connection member in a direction non-parallel to the vent system primary surface to align the first aperture with the vent aperture; and

coupling the flue connection member to the appliance;

wherein the vent system further defines a first inlet aperture and the flue connection member further defines second inlet aperture, and the moving step includes moving the flue connection member to align the first inlet aperture with the second inlet aperture.